

## Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 AID-20 OIC-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 IO-12 RSR-01 /141 W

----- 086377

R 170613 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9250

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 4020

E. O. 11652 : GDS

TAGS: CMARR, CENTO, IR, PK

SUBJECT: CENTO: COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING

REF: ANKARA 3837

1. GOP FONSEC ALVIE RAISED VENUE 1974  
CENTO MINISTERIAL COUNCIL MEETING DURING DISCUSSION  
OF OTHER SUBJECTS WITH CHARGE APRIL 16. ASSUME FONSEC  
BROACHED MATTER AS RESULT INFORMAL DISCUSSION BETWEEN  
US AND PAK EMBASSIES ANKARA AS MENTIONED REFTEL WHICH  
WE HAD NOT YET RECEIVED.

2. RESPONDING GENERAL QUERY BY FONSEC ON NORMAL RO-  
TATION, CHARGE SAID HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE PAKISTAN'S  
TURN TO ACT AS HOST IN 1974, ASSUMING IT WISHED RESUME  
ITS NORMAL PLANCE IN CYCLE, IN VIEW OF FACT MINISTERIAL  
COUNCIL HAD NOT MET IN PAKISTAN FOR MANY YEARS. QUERIED  
FURTHER, CHARGE SAID HE THOUGHT US WAS NEXT IN LINE  
BUT DID NOT KNOW WHETHER USG HAD TAKEN ANY POSITION  
REGARDING VENUE 1974 MEETING. FONSEC VOLUNTEERED THAT  
PAKISTAN MIGHT NOT BE READY TO OFFER ACT AS HOST 1974  
MEETING. IN ABSENCE INSTRUCTIONS, CHARGE LET MATTER  
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DROP AT THAT POINT.

3. WE ARE INCLINED BELIEVE PREFERABLE THAT CENTO SECRETARIAT RATHER THAN THIS EMBASSY SOUND OUT GOP ON ITS INTENTIONS REGARDING 1974. MEETING. THIS WOULD KEEP CENTO ARRANGEMENTS IN NORMAL MULTI- LATERAL CHANNEL AND AVOID POSSIBLE IMPRESSION THAT USG ITSELF IS NOW PREPARED TO PROD GOP TOWARD MORE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN CENTO. MEANWHILE, WE SUGGEST THAT WASHINGTON PROCEED WITH CONTINGENCY PLANNING, AS SUGGESTED BY EMBASSY ANKARA, TO ACT AS 1974 HOST.  
SOBER

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NMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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